

THE
ANNUAL ADDRESS,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL
SOCIETY OF LONDON,

at the Anniversary Meeting held on Tuesday, March 1, 1853,

By JOSEPH HODGSON, F.R.S.,

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

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GENTLEMEN,—It is the first part of my duty to-day to bring to your notice the present state of our Society, and it is with feelings of sincere gratification that I represent to you its continued prosperity. The Report of your Council has made you acquainted with the condition of our finances. Our income has exceeded that of the preceding year, and the state of our funds has enabled us to replace the amount in Government Securities which was last year required to discharge the debt due to our Treasurer. Although there has been a slight falling off in the number of new members admitted into the Society, there is every reason to believe that this has been owing solely to the want of acquaintance with the change which has been adopted in the last year in the mode of election, and that, when the mode of admission now adopted is more generally known, our fellowship will be more sought and our numbers increased. During the past year great additions have been made to our Library, which, I believe, only equalled by one of the same kind in the United Kingdom, and the number of Fellows who have availed themselves of the opportunity of increasing their acquaintance with professional literature from this ample store,

has never been greater than in the past year. Our meetings have been largely attended, and our discussions have, I trust, been conducted in a manner calculated to promote this, the most important object for which our Society was founded. Our published volume of *Transactions*, not only in its extent, but also from the importance of its contents, amply rivals any that have preceded it; and although its cost much exceeds that of previous publications of the Society, there can be no doubt that *this* outlay will be regarded as properly made, because it confers so much benefit upon our own Fellows and the public generally.

So far, Gentlemen, my duty has been gratifying. But I must now turn to another part of it, which is gloomy and distressing. Death has removed from amongst us more than the usual number of our Associates during the past year, and amongst these are some of our most honoured and esteemed friends. I am sure that I need not ask your indulgence whilst I state to you the deeds and merits for which some of our lamented colleagues deserve to be remembered. This recognition of their worth is not only justly due to their memories, but perhaps may serve to excite reflections in our minds which may animate or console us under the various conditions of professional exertion.

First amongst the deceased Members of our Society, it is my painful duty to record the name of our esteemed friend, Mr. JAMES PAINTER VINCENT, who became a Fellow of this Society in the year 1814. During nearly half a century, Mr. Vincent practised our profession in Lincoln's Inn Fields, having acquired the reputation not only of a skilful surgeon, but also of a kind and attentive friend to all whose confidence he had obtained. Mr. Vincent held many of the highest offices in the surgical department of our profession. In early life he possessed the inestimable opportunity of obtaining a thorough acquaintance with practical surgery, by a long at-

attendance in the wards of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and he enjoyed all the advantages of cultivating medical science generally which were afforded by the school of that justly-renowned Institution. In the early part of the present century, Mr. Vincent was appointed one of the Assistant-Surgeons to St. Bartholomew's Hospital; for many years he held the office of one of the principal surgeons to that Institution, and retained that station until a short time before his decease, having acquired the esteem of all around him by the extreme kindness of his disposition, and strict attention to the performance of his duties. In 1822 he was elected a Member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons; in 1828, he became a Member of the Court of Examiners, and on two occasions, first in 1832 and secondly in 1840, the honour of President of that body was conferred upon him. All who were associated with our departed friend in the discharge of the important duties connected with the government of the College, will afford willing testimony to the sterling integrity and the fixed endeavour to promote the usefulness and uphold the station of the College, by which, with meek urbanity of manner, he constantly upheld its best interests. Mr. Vincent was a singular example of a member of our profession withholding from the public the results of most extensive opportunities of attaining knowledge until the arrival of that period of life and of professional position, which precludes the idea of coming before the public for purposes of personal advancement. He reserved the publication of the results of his experience until time afforded this satisfaction to his retiring disposition, and until mature experience had enabled him to write with the authority and experience which insured for him the attention and confidence of his contemporaries. The only practical work published by Mr. Vincent is entitled, "Observations on some of the parts of Surgical Practice." Another contribution which he made to medical literature

was a pamphlet published some years ago, entitled, "An Inquiry into the Claims that Surgery may be supposed to have for being classed as a Science."

Mr. JOHN DALRYMPLE was the eldest son of the eminent surgeon of Norwich, Mr. William Dalrymple. He commenced his professional education in Norwich, and subsequently pursued it in Edinburgh and in London. He was elected one of the Assistant-Surgeons to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, in the city, in 1832, and by his skill and assiduity in the cultivation of Ophthalmic Surgery he sustained the high character of an Institution which was the first to afford to students of our profession generally the opportunity of observing, on a large scale, the phenomena and treatment of Diseases of the Eye, and which had already acquired the highest renown by the labours of Farre, Saunders, Travers, and Lawrence. In 1843, Mr. Dalrymple was appointed Surgeon to that Institution, but the state of his health, which was always feeble, obliged him to relinquish this appointment about three years before his death. The high character which Mr. Dalrymple had acquired in Ophthalmic Surgery from his connexion with the Ophthalmic Hospital, together with his personal merits, procured for him extensive employment and great eminence in this department of surgical practice. This success was also much promoted by the publication of "An Essay on the Anatomy of the Human Eye," and by his splendidly illustrated work on the Diseases of that organ. By these publications, his professional brethren were convinced of the extent and accuracy of his knowledge of those subjects to which he devoted himself. It is not improbable that in selecting for his special attention one branch of professional employment, our talented member was influenced by frequent attacks of ill health which rendered him unable to cope with the fatigues and anxieties of

more general practice. Few men who have devoted themselves to one branch of practice have ever possessed more ardent zeal in the pursuit of science generally than John Dalrymple, or have cultivated with greater enthusiasm the collateral branches of medical science. He was fully aware of the importance of chemical investigations to medical knowledge; this conviction caused him to join the Founders of that important Institution, the Royal College of Chemistry, the interests of which he constantly advocated. Early in his professional career he was impressed with the importance of microscopical inquiries in the elucidation of minute structures, and consequently in the advancement of Physiology and Pathology. He devoted much time and attention to these investigations, and, had his life been prolonged, there is every reason to believe that his researches in these departments would have materially extended the sphere of our knowledge. He possessed an extensive store of general information, and there was scarcely any department of science which had not claimed his attention. In 1850 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in 1851 a Member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, but his feeble health and brief career enabled him to attend but little to the proceedings of those Institutions, and cause us now to lament, by his death, the loss of one of our most esteemed, talented, and promising Associates.

Mr. HERBERT MAYO was the son of the eminent physician the late Dr. Mayo of the Middlesex and Foundling Hospitals. He was apprenticed to Sir Charles Bell, and derived from that distinguished physiologist a deep interest in those investigations which have obtained for his preceptor the highest renown in physiological science. At the termination of his apprenticeship, Mr. Mayo studied in Holland, and received, at the University of Leyden, the degree of Doctor

of Medicine. He then settled in London, and became the Lecturer on Anatomy in the School which he established in Berwick-street. In 1827, on the death of Mr. John Shaw, he was elected Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. On the foundation of King's College, he was appointed Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in that College, and he continued to hold this office until the year 1836. About the time when he received this appointment he was also Professor of Anatomy and Physiology to the Royal College of Surgeons, and was justly regarded as one of the most eloquent lecturers and efficient teachers in this metropolis. In 1842, he resigned his appointment in the Middlesex Hospital on account of ill-health, of a severe rheumatic character, which, for some time, had almost incapacitated him from the discharge of professional duties. On this account he removed to the Baths of Germany, where he died in the course of last summer, in the 57th year of his age. One of Mr. Mayo's earliest publications was his "Outlines of Human Physiology," a work which displays great erudition and powers of observation. The same remark may also be justly applied to his "Anatomical and Physiological Commentaries." But his "Series of Engravings," intended to illustrate the structure of the brain and spinal chord must be regarded as his greatest work, and is scarcely excelled by any publication on that subject, in the minuteness of appearances represented, and the beauty of the delineations, as well as the originality of the observations, which it contains. Some years after his appointment to the Middlesex Hospital, he published his work entitled "Outlines of Human Pathology," which also contains much original and important observation, especially in relation to points connected with practical surgery, to which he successfully applied his extensive attainments in Physiology. Mr. Mayo also published a work on Syphilis and on Injuries and Diseases of the Rectum, and a curious and interesting volume,

entitled "On the Philosophy of Living," and another interesting little volume "On the Nervous System." He contributed to the eleventh volume of the *Transactions* of the Society a paper on an Acute form of Ulceration of the Cartilages of the Joints; and, in the nineteenth volume, a second communication on the same subject and on Anchylosis. The writings of Mr. Mayo evince great talent, labour, and originality of research, and all who were present at his public addresses agree that few possessed greater power of exciting the interest of their auditors, or of communicating knowledge with more felicity and effect. He filled the offices in this Society of Secretary in 1825, and Vice-President in 1834.

Dr. GEORGE GREGORY was the second son of the Rev. William Gregory of Canterbury. He was born in Canterbury on the 16th August, 1790. On his father's side Dr. Gregory's relations have long been distinguished in Scotland. The Rev. Wm. Gregory was the second son of Dr. John Gregory, author of "A Father's Legacy to his Daughters," and his grandfather, Dr. James Gregory, Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen, was descended directly from the distinguished mathematician, Dr. James Gregory, the inventor of the Gregorian Telescope, and the intimate friend of Sir Isaac Newton.

Dr. George Gregory's early education was received at the King's School in Canterbury. Owing to the death of his father, in January, 1803, he was most kindly welcomed, in the autumn of that year, as an inmate in the house of his uncle, Dr. James Gregory, of Edinburgh the author of the "Conspectus Medicinæ," then in great repute as a physician in that city. Here he attended several of the classes in the University, and amongst them that of Moral Philosophy, conducted by the celebrated Dugald Stewart. Having selected Medicine as his profession, he commenced his attend-

ance on the medical classes in Edinburgh in the winter of 1806; and in 1809 he continued his studies in London under the immediate superintendence and direction of Dr. Baillie. This eminent physician had contracted in early life an intimate friendship with Dr. Gregory's father at Oxford, of which he gave substantial proof in the kind and considerate interest and assistance which he now and ever afterwards rendered to the welfare of his son. At this time Dr. Gregory attended the Anatomical Demonstrations of Sir Benjamin Brodie in Windmill-street, and also one of the earliest courses of Lectures on Chemistry delivered by Mr. Brande. In October, 1809, he attended the first meeting of the Westminster Medical Society, and for many years took a leading part in its proceedings, filling all its offices from Secretary to President. Dr. Gregory went to Edinburgh in 1811, and in company with his cousin, Dr. William Pulteney Alison, now Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, and Dr. Holland, of London, he prepared for his examination, and in the same year he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine.

On the 2nd July, 1812, as a preliminary step to entering the army, he took his Diploma as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of London, and soon afterwards he was gazetted as Hospital-assistant to the Forces. In 1813 he was sent to the Mediterranean, and served for three years with different corps in Sicily and Italy. During this period, his love of travel induced him to visit, with eagerness, all the scenes and objects of interest within his reach. In April, 1814, he was appointed Resident Medical Officer with the expedition against Genoa, under Lord William Bentinck, and witnessed the attack on the forts which led to the capitulation of the town, and its evacuation by the French, on the 21st of the month.

In 1816 he returned to England, passed his examination

at the Royal College of Physicians, and settled in London. In February, 1817, he was made Physician to St. George's and St. James's Dispensary, which appointment he resigned in 1829; but ever afterwards took a warm interest in the prosperity of that Institution. In May, 1829, he was appointed Consulting Physician and acted as its Treasurer for twelve years, up to the time of his death. In 1818, he began to give lectures on the Practice of Physic at the Medical School in Little Windmill-street. In 1820, he published the first edition of his "Elements of the Theory and Practice of Medicine," a work which was specially recommended to the medical officers of the army by the head of their department and which still retains its reputation. It has passed through six editions in this country and two in America.

In 1834 he became a fellow of this Society; in 1825 he was elected one of its Secretaries, a post which he filled for two years, and in 1849 and 1850 he was a member of the Council. He has contributed eight papers to our *Transactions*, four of which relate to Small Pox and Vaccination.

In March, 1822, he was elected Physician to the Small Pox and Vaccination Hospital, an appointment in which he took the most active interest and which he held at the time of his decease. His connexion with this Institution furnished him with materials for his numerous writings on the diseases to which it is devoted.

In 1842 he was appointed Lecturer on the Exanthemata at St. Thomas's Hospital, and he continued this course, which consisted of sixteen or eighteen lectures, for ten consecutive years. He also delivered an Oration at one of the Conversations at that Hospital, and twice he opened the Medical Session with an introductory Address. Here, as elsewhere, his clear, curt, and yet comprehensive style of teaching gave great satisfaction to his pupils.

In 1843 he published his "Lectures on the Eruptive Fevers," which were republished in New York in 1851, with additions by himself, being edited by Dr. Bulkeley.

His career now began to draw to a close. For some time previous to the autumn of 1851, he had warnings that his heart was not in a healthy condition. At this season he suffered from periosteal rheumatism, and unmistakable cardiac disease. In March, 1852, whilst walking home from the Small Pox Hospital, he was suddenly affected with loss of vision in the left eye, and slight loss of power, with numbness in the left hand and arm—symptoms which alarmed him at the time, but which soon passed off. His cardiac disease had now manifestly increased, as was shown by a very irregular and intermitting pulse, violent palpitation and dyspnœa, and loud grating "bruit." On the 8th April he experienced a distinct attack of "Angina Pectoris," characterized by sudden, acute, and terrifying pain at the base of the heart. In October he suffered from an attack of pneumonia in the left lung. From this time he had paroxysms of spasmodic dyspnœa and angina pectoris, which, as they increased in frequency and severity, became most alarming and painful, and seemed immediately to threaten his existence. Towards the end of November, anasarca set in and steadily increased, adding much to his sufferings. On the 25th January 1853, after taking his breakfast, he suddenly and quietly expired. A post-mortem examination of his body revealed great enlargement of his heart, with ossification of the aortic valves and coronary arteries.

Those best acquainted with the subject of this sketch will readily call to mind the natural enthusiasm of his character, which so obviously displayed itself in all the relations of life. As a man and a member of our profession, his actions were marked by honour, candour, and integrity. Though not possessed of unbounded confidence in the effects of medicines, his

acute perception enabled him at once to see the nature of a disease brought before him, and his treatment was characterized by energy and decision. That he was an active labourer in the field of medical science is evinced by his numerous publications. In addition to the two larger works above referred to, he published about 212 papers, consisting of articles in various medical journals, pamphlets, reviews, essays, lectures, reports of cases, and other miscellaneous writings. Dr. Gregory was a good classic, an excellent linguist, and a great lover of music. His store of general information, his fund of humour, his kind and lively manner, and his ready and pleasing mode of communicating his ideas, whether publicly or in private life, will long be retained in the memories of those with whom he associated.*

Dr. SAMUEL BARWICK BRUCE, of Ripon, in Yorkshire, died in London, in the course of the last year, having been a Fellow of this Society during thirty-four years. To the grief which must attend the death of any man of worth and social station, there is in this case added the regrets of a wide and more public circle whom he had served in various quarters of the globe, as well as the sorrow of private friends to whom his genial manners and fund of anecdote had long endeared him. For some time past the sensible decay of Dr. Bruce's health had excited his own anxiety and the apprehensions of his nearest friends; but it was only within the last week of his life that his illness assumed that severe character which eventually realized their worst fears. At the time of his decease Dr. Bruce held the important office of Inspector of Mills and Prisons in the district of Ripon; but it was in the public service of his country that he was most distinguished. The following statement shows in what

* This memoir of Dr. Gregory was supplied by his relative, Mr. John Gregory Forbes, of Devonport Street, Hyde Park.

perils and arduous duties he was engaged, and proves the claims of those members of our profession whose talents and lives are devoted to the public services to the gratitude and consideration of their countrymen.

“ Dr. Bruce entered the medical department of the army in 1804, but saw some of his earliest service afloat under Lord Nelson, in 1805; he was present at the capture of the Danish Islands of St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix, in 1807, and he subsequently served at the siege of Fort Desaix, Martinique; at the capture of Les Saintes, near Guadaloupe; at the bombardment and driving from their anchorage of the French Fleet, in 1809; at the capture of Guadaloupe, as well as at the capture of the adjacent islands, in 1810. Dr. Bruce served in the Peninsula, in 1813; in America, in 1814 and 1815; he was present at the severe actions before New Orleans, in January, 1815; and at the capture of Fort Boyer. He joined the army in the Netherlands, under the Duke of Wellington, in May, 1815; was present at Waterloo, and at the subsequent capture of Paris.”

The death of Dr. JONATHAN PEREIRA has been the cause of deep sorrow to the members of our profession generally, and to a large circle of scientific and literary, as well as of private friends. Suddenly removed from this world, in the prime of life and in the midst of usefulness, we have, in consequence of the death of Dr. Pereira, to lament the loss of a most estimable colleague, deeply attached to, and learned in, science generally, which he brought to bear with singular success upon one of the most important departments of medical knowledge. Perhaps no man in any country has so largely extended our acquaintance with therapeutical agents, and certainly no one has contributed more extensively to place that knowledge upon a truly scientific basis. Not only did he accomplish this by his numerous publications, and

especially by his well-known and highly esteemed work, entitled "Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics," but also by diffusing a knowledge of these subjects, and exciting an interest in, and giving just importance to, such investigations, by Lectures which he delivered to some of the largest classes that ever were assembled in this Metropolis. The contemplation of his labours shows that he achieved benefits to his fellow-creatures, of more general and lasting importance and utility, perhaps, than the more brilliant and imaginative proceedings of some of his continental contemporaries in the same departments of science. But the incidents of Dr. Pereira's life not only show how great a benefactor he was to practical medicine, but they also prove, that zeal and industry, real scientific ardour, and a talent for accurate and minute observation, with steadfast purpose and undeviating integrity, may obtain for their possessor—whatever may have been his original position—the highest honours and rewards of our profession.

Dr. Pereira was born in London in 1804. He was at school at a private academy in Finsbury. At the early age of fifteen, he was apprenticed to a general practitioner in the City Road, but he was thus occupied only three years. During this short apprenticeship he saw the necessity of acquiring a perfect knowledge of the Latin language, and in his leisure hours he employed himself in making translations from the works of the ancient classics. He also drew up a vocabulary of the terms most commonly employed in medical literature. When he left his apprenticeship he attended the Lectures at the Aldersgate School which were given by Dr. Clutterbuck, Dr. Birkbeck, and Dr. Lambe. He also attended the surgical practice of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and, whilst thus engaged in his professional education, he was appointed in the year 1823, at the age of nineteen, apothecary to the Aldersgate-street Dispensary. Here he originated

a private class, and gave instructions to those who were preparing for examination at the College of Surgeons and at Apothecaries' Hall. He published at this time a few small books for the assistance of his class—namely, a “Translation of the London Pharmacopœia of 1824,” in which he described the various medicinal preparations, their reactions, and chemical decompositions; the “Selecta è Prescriptis;” a “Manual for the use of Students;” and a “General Table of Atomic Numbers, with an Introduction to the Atomic Theory.” These publications became very popular amongst the students, and thus extended the reputation of their author. In 1825, he succeeded Dr. Clutterbuck as Lecturer on Chemistry at the Aldersgate School, and obtained the confidence of his pupils by the simplicity of his style, the extent of his knowledge, and the felicity of his illustrations. He now turned his attention to Therapeutics generally, and in order that he might consult the authors of France and Germany, he engaged tutors to instruct him in the languages of those countries. He began to lecture on this subject in 1828. His reputation rapidly increased; in 1832 he resigned his office as apothecary to the Dispensary; and in the same year he joined the *new* Medical School in Aldersgate-street, and was also appointed Lecturer on Chemistry at the London Hospital. At this time the publication of his Lectures in the “Medical Gazette,” and their re-publication in Germany and in India, greatly extended his reputation. In 1839, he published his “Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics,” which may be regarded as his great work; and he was appointed Examiner in Materia Medica in the University of London. In 1840, he became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, and commenced practice as a physician. In 1841, he was elected Assistant Physician to the London Hospital, and in 1842, he was appointed Professor to the Pharmaceutical Society, and published his work on Food

and Diet. In 1845, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and he delivered the Lectures on *Materia Medica* at that College in 1851. In that year, also, he was appointed one of the chief physicians to the London Hospital. During this time, notwithstanding the engagements of extensive practice, which was daily increasing, and his numerous other avocations, he still continued to lecture occasionally on his favourite subjects, as well as to join in the clinical discourses at the hospital. He was a Member of the Royal, the Linnæan, and various other learned Societies. He became a Fellow of our Society in 1831; he was a Member of the Council in 1844, and Vice President in 1847.

Dr. JOHN TAYLOR was born at Huddersfield in 1811, and received a considerable portion of his general education in the city of Chester.

Having selected medicine as his profession, he was apprenticed to Mr. Wright, of Lockwood, near Huddersfield; but, this gentleman dying, he served the two last years of his apprenticeship with Mr. Beeley, of Holmfirth. The love of his profession, which was so marked a feature in his subsequent career, at once manifested itself; he was most attentive and diligent in fulfilling the various duties which devolved upon him, was in every point of view exceedingly studious, and, as stated by his friend and fellow-pupil, Mr. Booth, of Huddersfield, who had also the melancholy satisfaction of attending him during a great part of his fatal illness, he never spent any time but in professional and scientific pursuits.

In October, 1832, he became a student at University College, London, where he highly distinguished himself by his industry and ability and by the number of prizes for which he successfully competed; nor were the examinations which he passed less brilliant, nor the honours he obtained less marked for his degrees at the University of London, of

which he was the Senior Graduate in Medicine. He was appointed Resident Medical Officer of University College Hospital; and the estimation in which his abilities were even then held, was sufficiently manifest by the considerable number of students who accompanied him in his morning visits round the wards; and many, indeed, who had ceased to be students, when he became a professor, own, with lively pleasure, the practical information and advantage which they obtained on these occasions. At that time, as indeed long before, he was in the habit of taking careful notes of great numbers of the interesting cases which came under his notice, and five or six folio volumes, besides many other papers, bear witness to the industry which he then displayed.

Nor were his talents unappreciated, for when, in the year 1841, it was determined to found a special Professorship of Clinical Medicine at University College, this appointment, together with that of Physician to the Hospital, was conferred upon him by the Council of the College; and in the year 1843, he was also made a Fellow. Preparatory to entering upon the duties of his professorship, he thought it desirable to visit some of the continental schools, and he therefore spent six months in Paris to attend the hospitals, and to avail himself of such advantages as they presented. It may well be conceived, from what has been already stated, that few have entered on such duties as those he now undertook better prepared to fulfil them with credit to himself and advantage to the students, and it may be fearlessly added, that no one ever did so with a firmer determination faithfully to discharge those duties, to advance his profession, and to make himself useful to those whom he might have to instruct, than the subject of this memoir. To accomplish these points he worked most indefatigably, and he obtained his reward both in the satisfaction which he experienced in his success as a teacher, and in the high estimation in which he was held by

the students. He was regular and punctual in his attendance at the hospital, methodical and exact in all he did, exceedingly minute, careful, and accurate in his investigation of the cases admitted under his care, the notes taken of which, and dictated by himself, were copious, and were remarkable for their accuracy. Nor in other points of view were his labours fruitless, for he contributed, as a result of deductions made from these careful observations, a paper to the *Transactions* of this Society, in 1845, of very high merit, "On some of the Causes of Pericarditis, especially Acute Rheumatism, and Bright's Disease of the Kidneys." In this paper, which may be considered a model of careful deduction from facts, and which well illustrates the character of his mind, Dr. Taylor proved far more clearly than had been done before, the great influence which Bright's Disease has in producing disease of the heart, and that, *in its advanced stages*, Bright's Disease has a tendency to produce Pericarditis and Endocarditis, equal with that possessed even by Acute Rheumatism. As a further illustration of this subject, he likewise published, about the same time, a series of no less than forty cases of Pericarditis.

Dr. Taylor's health had never been robust, and his constant study, together with the duties connected with his professorship and his avocations in the wards of the hospital, tended still further to impair it. He had a slight amount of disease of the heart, but it was from very severe dyspeptic symptoms that he suffered still more. From these he got temporary relief by strict attention to diet, &c., and still more by some relaxation and change of air during each autumn vacation, and especially by a visit to Switzerland in the year 1844. When, however, he had again for some time returned to more sedentary occupations and his usual pursuits, his former symptoms recurred, and they not only caused him much bodily suffering, but, as he acutely felt, by their in-

fluence on the energy of his mind, impaired, in some measure his usefulness also.

In the year 1846, a vacancy occurred in the office of Physician to the Infirmary of his native town, and many of his friends there, who had seen with anxiety his health gradually become worse in London, and who hoped that a permanent residence in the country might perpetuate that improvement which they had witnessed as a result, from time to time, of relaxation from his pursuits in town, most strongly urged him to allow himself to be put in nomination for the appointment, and to give up the more arduous duties he had in London for those of practice as a physician in the country. At this time, his reputation, and the confidence felt in his opinion by those who knew him, were steadily increasing his consulting practice here, and it was not therefore without much hesitation, and even some reluctance, on his own part, nor without having consulted those in whose opinion he most confided, that, as a matter of what he believed to be duty, he became a candidate for the office in question. Though late in the field, he obtained the appointment, and soon after removed to Huddersfield, where he at once got into very extensive practice, and was frequently sent for in consultation to most of the large towns of both Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Although his health at first improved much from his change of residence and habits, more serious symptoms before long presented themselves, and as long as three years ago they were such as to lead him and others to believe that he was suffering under disease of the kidney. Still, however, he pursued his professional avocations, and contributed to medical literature some valuable papers on the "Treatment of Pericarditis," and "On the Origin and Propagation of the Cholera in Huddersfield and its Neighbourhood, in 1849." In March of last year he was compelled by his increasing sufferings to relinquish altogether his professional duties; he

gradually got worse until the 28th of the following June, when he died. For some time, it was supposed by several leading members of the profession that he had calculus of the kidney, but about a month before his death, the symptoms were such that both Mr. Teale of Leeds, and Mr. Booth of Huddersfield, who then attended Dr. Taylor, felt assured of the presence of malignant disease in the left kidney and liver, a view of the case which was verified by the post-mortem examination.

When his useful career was thus prematurely cut short, he was preparing some valuable papers on Pneumonia and Pleurisy, many cases illustrative of which he was arranging, and had nearly ready for publication.*

I regret, Gentlemen, that our time will now allow me to do but little more, in conclusion, than record the names of the other Fellows of our Society which appear in our long Obituary for the past year. Dr. WILLIAM WITHERING ARNOLD, of Leicester; Dr. HENRY CHARLES BOISRAGON, of Cheltenham; Dr. THACKERAY, of Cambridge; Dr. NOEL SMITH, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Mr. CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON, of the Coldstream Guards, were all known to many whom I am now addressing. Each in his own sphere was highly respected, and, excepting Mr. Robinson, who died at the early age of 38, each for a series of years had by the liberal and skilful practice of our profession conferred great benefits upon our fellow-creatures, and sustained the character of our common calling. Mr. Robinson, of the Coldstream Guards, was a man of much acquirement and of the highest respectability; and had he lived, he would have advanced the interests of that department of the public service to which he belonged. But, gentlemen, you must pardon me if I trespass a little

* This biographical notice of Dr. Taylor was supplied by his friend, Dr. C. J. Hare, of University College Hospital.

longer upon your attention, in stating his claims for our respect on the part of a physician who has lately been removed from amongst us, and who, although for some years he had retired from our fellowship, was one of our oldest members, a skilful practitioner of great experience, and an extensive contributor to medical and general literature, as well as a man of the utmost integrity and amenity of disposition.

The late Dr. MERRIMAN was born at Marlborough, in Wiltshire, in 1771, and lived in London from the age of fourteen, residing with his uncle, the first Dr. Merriman, in whose house, after the necessary attendance upon lectures in the Great Windmill Street School, under Baillie, Cruikshank, and others, he commenced practice as an apothecary, and became a Member of the Society of Apothecaries.

He lived in the district of May Fair from boyhood till 1822, when he removed to Brook-street, but he abandoned the practice of an apothecary in 1807, practising from that period as a physician only.

Dr. Merriman's appointments were those of Physician Accoucheur to the Westminster General Dispensary, and to the Middlesex Hospital. At the latter Institution he delivered Lectures on Midwifery, which were largely attended. He also gave three courses of lectures at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, during the illness of Dr. Gooch. Dr. Merriman's connexion with the Middlesex Hospital is well known; for years he laboured, as physician and as governor, to promote its interest and extend its usefulness. His zealous endeavours to promote the efficiency of the general practitioner, partly by his personal exertions for six years as an Examiner at the Society of Apothecaries, and also by the great powers which he possessed as an author in advocating the interests of that body, are well known to many of the Fellows of the Society whom I have now the honour to address.

Dr. Merriman was elected a Fellow of *this* Society in 1811, six years after its original foundation; he was elected on the Council in 1813, Vice-President in 1827, and Treasurer in 1837. He presented to us several valuable essays, which are published in our *Transactions*,—viz., in Vol. III., “Cases of Premature Parturition Artificially Induced;” and “Cases of Difficult Parturition from Dropsical Ovarium.” In Vol. X., “Cases of Difficult Parturition from Pelvic Tumours.” And in Vol. XIII., a Paper “On the Duration of Pregnancy.” In 1810, he published a pamphlet “On Retroversion of the Uterus,” the first essay which gave a good account of this serious displacement. In 1814, he published his “Synopsis of Difficult Parturition,” a work of standard reputation. He also published various essays in the Medical Journals, and in the “Gentleman’s Magazine.” These contributions to Medical and general literature evince great depth of thought and extent of research.

Dr. Merriman’s advancing age and infirmities compelled him for the last ten years to lead a retired life; he died as if sinking into a quiet repose, on the 22nd of November last, having just completed his 81st year.





